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International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991

Letter dated 20 December 2010 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the President of the General Assembly

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of resolution 1954 (2010), adopted unanimously by the Security Council at its 6446th meeting, held on 14 December 2010, which reads:

The Security Council,

Taking note of the letter to the President of the Council from the Secretary-General dated 23 November 2010 (S/2010/599), attaching the letter from the President of the International Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia ("the International Tribunal") dated 9 November 2010,

Recalling its resolutions 827 (1993) of 25 May 1993, 1581 (2005) of 18 January 2005, 1597 (2005) of 20 April 2005, 1613 (2005) of 26 July 2005, 1629 (2005) of 30 September 2005, 1660 (2006) of 28 February 2006, 1668 (2006) of 10 April 2006, 1800 (2008) of 20 February 2008, 1837 (2008) of 29 September 2008, 1849 (2008) of 12 December 2008, 1877 (2009) of 7 July 2009, 1900 (2009) of 16 December 2009, and 1931 (2010) of 29 June 2010,

Recalling in particular its resolutions 1503 (2003) of 28 August 2003 and 1534 (2004) of 26 March 2004, in which the Security Council calls on the International Tribunal to take all possible measures to complete investigations by the end of 2004, to complete all trial activities at first instance by the end of 2008, and to complete all work in 2010,

Taking note of the assessment by the International Tribunal in its Completion Strategy Report (S/2010/588) that the Tribunal will not be in a position to complete all its work in 2010,

Urging the International Tribunal to take all possible measures to complete its work expeditiously,

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Noting the concerns expressed by the President of the International Tribunal about the loss of experienced staff, and *reaffirming* that staff retention is essential for the timely completion of the International Tribunal's work,

Acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations,

1. *Decides* that, notwithstanding the expiry of his term of office on 31 December 2010, Judge Kevin Parker is authorized to complete the *Đorđević* case, which he began before the expiry of his term of office; and *takes note* of the intention of the International Tribunal to complete the case by the end of February 2011;

2. *Decides* that, notwithstanding the expiry of his term of office on 31 December 2010, Judge Uldis Kinis is authorized to complete the *Gotovina et al.* case which he began before the expiry of his term of office; and *takes note* of the intention of the International Tribunal to complete the case by the end of March 2011;

3. *Decides* to allow Judge Kinis to serve at the International Tribunal beyond the cumulative period of service provided for under article 13 *ter*, paragraph 2, of the Statute of the International Tribunal;

4. *Reiterates* the importance of the International Tribunal being adequately staffed to complete its work expeditiously and *calls upon* the Secretariat and other relevant United Nations bodies to continue to work with the Registrar of the International Tribunal in order to find practicable solutions to address this issue as the International Tribunal approaches the completion of its work, and at the same time *calls upon* the International Tribunal to renew its efforts to focus on its core functions;

5. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

(*Signed*) Susan E. **Rice**
President of the Security Council